



Town of Groton, Connecticut

Meeting Agenda

Town Council

45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk (860)441-6640
Town Manager (860)441-6630

Mayor Harry A. Watson, Councilors Heather Sherman Bond, Kathryn M. Brown-Tracy, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Rita M. Schmidt, Paulann H. Sheets, and James L. Streeter

Tuesday, December 04, 2007

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

REGULAR MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

2007-0270 Proclamation Honoring Johnson's Hardware

Proclamation - TC

Presentation to former Councilors Peter J. Bartnik, Jr. and John F. Scott IV

Recess for Public Hearing on:

2007-0166 Request for Financial Incentive - Groton Hospitality, LLC

Referral

IV. CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

This is the portion of the Council Agenda where the Council welcomes comments from citizens. Each presentation should be limited to ten minutes or less, and citizens should, if possible, submit written comments. Presentations should be related to matters pertinent to Groton. Town Councilors will only ask questions in order to clarify the speaker's presentation and can respond during the Responses to Citizens' Petitions portion of the Town Council meeting. Citizens should make their presentations from the lectern and state their names and addresses for the record.

V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under Item VI (Consent Calendar) are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion of these items will take place, unless cause is shown prior to the time Council votes on the motion to adopt.

a. Approval of Minutes

2007-0286 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

Resolution - Consent

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of November 20, 2007 are hereby accepted and approved.

b. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2007-0265 Budget Guidance

Referral

2007-0284 Budget Guidance - Board of Education

Referral

2007-0266 Town Attorney Appointment

Referral

2007-0271 Zeroing Bond Authorization on Completed Projects

Referral

2007-0277 Zeroing Bond Authorization for Road Improvements

Referral

2007-0278	Zeroing Bond Authorization for Fort Hill Water Extensions	Referral
2007-0279	Zeroing Bond Authorization for Poquonnock River Pumping Station	Referral
2007-0280	Zeroing Bond Authorization for Public Safety Facility	Referral
2007-0281	Zeroing Bond Authorization for Welles Road Bulky Waste Site	Referral
2007-0282	Zeroing Bond Authorization for Transfer Station	Referral
2007-0273	Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut Grant - Arts Cafe	Referral
2007-0275	Update of Housing Rehabilitation Guidelines	Referral
2007-0283	Resolution Regarding School Window Dispute	Referral
2007-0285	CGS 8-24 Referral to Planning Commission of Conveyance of Town Property	Referral

c. Special Trust Fund Contributions

2007-0272	Special Trust Fund Contributions	Resolution - Consent
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RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Various Donations - \$733.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

Alex Adrian - \$60.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Joellen Anderson - \$20.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Anonymous - \$15.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Nancy Barnhart - \$25.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Roger and Sidney Gross - \$50.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Groton Public Schools Central Office Employees - \$290.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Groton-Ledyard Rotary/Liberty Bank - \$10,215.76 - Social Services Discretionary

Paul Henschel - \$50.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Jilly and Haley Kerwin - \$10.00 - Social Services Discretionary

George Marshall - \$100.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Thomas Meyers - \$20.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Mystic Rotary/Liberty Bank - \$625.11 - Social Services Discretionary

Mystic Lions Club - \$500.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Poquonnock Bridge Neighborhood - \$100.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Mary Robeson - \$3.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Glenn and Richard Ross and Harriet MacDonald - \$20.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Janiss Rudolph - \$100.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Robert Schneider - \$30.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Lee Treadway - \$20.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Susan Decorte - \$221.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Richard Gunnell - \$66.64 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)

a. Town Councilors

b. Representative Town Meeting

c. Clerk of the Council

d. Town Manager

e. Town Attorney

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**a. Temporary Rules Committee - Chairman Streeter****b. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Watson****IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS****X. NEW BUSINESS****2007-0265 Budget Guidance****Referral****RESOLUTION ON GUIDANCE FOR THE TOWN MANAGER'S FYE 2009 PROPOSED BUDGET**

WHEREAS, in some past years the Town Council has made a resolution to convey to the Town Manager specific guidance in dollar or percentage terms for the purpose of limiting the total amount of the Manager's proposed budget, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council at this time deems that such specific budget guidance could prematurely restrict the flow of information and inhibit the development of the best management practices for the Town, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council requests that the Town Manager prepare and submit to them a budget proposal for the Town Departments which is equivalent to a "level service" budget for FYE 2009.

Legislative History

11/13/2007	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of the W
11/27/2007	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

2007-0284 Budget Guidance - Board of Education**Referral****RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE BUDGET GUIDANCE FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, the Town Council wishes to convey its guidance for the FYE 2009 budget to the Groton Board of Education, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council requests of the Board of Education that the Board submit a budget and appropriation request for FYE 2009 that is fiscally equivalent to a "level service" budget.

Legislative History

11/28/2007	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution
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2007-0266 Town Attorney Appointment**Referral****RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE TOWN ATTORNEY**

WHEREAS, the Town Council has considered the needs of the Town for legal advice, the nature of the litigation currently underway, and the cost and quality of the legal services now being provided, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Town Charter 5.1, Eileen Duggan of the firm of Suisman, Shapiro, Wool, Brennan, Gray & Greenberg, P.C. is hereby appointed Town Attorney, to exercise all powers and duties of that office until her successor shall be appointed and qualified, and that the following attorneys from Suisman Shapiro may assist Attorney Duggan carrying out her duties:

Matthew Auger
Raymond Baribeault

James Berryman
 Michael Blanchard
 Andrew Brand
 Eric Callahan
 Michael Carey
 Jack Collins
 Jeanette Dostie
 Bryan Fiengo
 Robert Keville
 Hinda Kimmel

Legislative History

2007-0277	11/13/2007 Mayor 11/27/2007 Town Council Committee of the Whole	Referred Recommended for a Resolution	Town Council Committee of the W Referral
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RESOLUTION ZEROING OUT THE BOND AUTHORIZATION FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton, Connecticut, appropriated the sum of \$6,750,000 and authorized the issue of bonds in the same amount by ordinance adopted by the Town Council at a meeting held July 1, 1986 and approved by the Representative Town Meeting on August 13, 1986 and at a referendum held November 4, 1986, for Road Improvements to Portions of Buddington Road, Meridian Street, Pumpkin Hill Road, Toll Gate Road and Poquonnock Road; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance provided that the Town Council would determine the amount of such bonds to be issued; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of \$750,000 General Obligation Bonds, Issue of 1989, \$3,500,000 General Obligation Bonds, Issue of 1992, \$1,650,000 General Obligation Bonds, Issue of 1993, and application of grants and paydowns in the amount of \$818,586, said authorization was reduced to \$31,414; and

WHEREAS, there will be no requirement for future borrowings on the project; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the total amount of such bonds remaining authorized but unissued shall be reduced to \$-0-.

Legislative History

2007-0278	11/27/2007 Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	Referral
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RESOLUTION ZEROING OUT THE BOND AUTHORIZATION FOR FORT HILL WATER EXTENSIONS

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton, Connecticut, appropriated the sum of \$1,585,000 and authorized the issue of bonds in the same amount by ordinance adopted by the Town Council at a meeting held June 1, 1993 and approved by the Representative Town Meeting on July 14, 1993 and at a referendum held November 2, 1993, for Fort Hill Water Extensions; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance provided that the Town Council would determine the amount of such bonds to be issued; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of \$1,340,000 General Obligation Bonds, Issue of 1996, said authorization was reduced to \$245,000; and

WHEREAS, there will be no requirement for future borrowings on the project; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the total amount of such bonds remaining authorized but unissued shall be reduced to \$-0-.

Legislative History

11/27/2007 Town Council Committee of Recommended for a
the Whole Resolution

2007-0279

**Zeroing Bond Authorization for Poquonnock River
Pumping Station**

Referral

**RESOLUTION ZEROING OUT THE BOND AUTHORIZATION FOR POQUONNOCK RIVER
SEWAGE PUMPING STATION**

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton, Connecticut, appropriated the sum of \$735,000 and authorized the issue of bonds in the same amount by ordinance adopted by the Town Council at a meeting held March 6, 1990 and approved by the Representative Town Meeting on March 14, 1990, for Poquonnock River Sewage Pumping Station; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance provided that the Town Council would determine the amount of such bonds to be issued; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of \$100,000 General Obligation Sewer Bonds, Issue of 1992, and \$510,000 General Obligation Sewer Bonds, Issue of 1993, said authorization was reduced to \$125,000; and

WHEREAS, there will be no requirement for future borrowings on the project; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the total amount of such bonds remaining authorized but unissued shall be reduced to \$-0-.

Legislative History

11/27/2007 Town Council Committee of Recommended for a
the Whole Resolution

2007-0280

Zeroing Bond Authorization for Public Safety Facility

Referral

**RESOLUTION ZEROING OUT THE BOND AUTHORIZATION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMUNICATIONS AND FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton, Connecticut, appropriated the sum of \$5,998,600 and authorized the issue of bonds in the same amount by ordinance adopted by the Town Council at a meeting held June 17, 1997 and approved by the Representative Town Meeting on August 13, 1997 and at a referendum held November 4, 1997, for Public Safety Communications and Facility Improvements; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance provided that the Town Council would determine the amount of such bonds to be issued; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of \$5,700,000 General Obligation Bonds, Issue of 2002, the receipt of grants in the aggregate amount of \$40,000, and a paydown in the amount of \$250,000, said authorization was reduced to \$8,600; and

WHEREAS, there will be no requirement for future borrowings on the project; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the total amount of such bonds remaining authorized but unissued shall be reduced to \$-0-.

Legislative History

11/27/2007	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	
2007-0281	Zeroing Bond Authorization for Welles Road Bulky Waste Site		Referral

RESOLUTION ZEROING OUT THE BOND AUTHORIZATION FOR CLOSURE OF WELLES ROAD BULKY WASTE SITE

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton, Connecticut, appropriated the sum of \$1,715,000 and authorized the issue of bonds in the same amount by ordinance adopted by the Town Council at a meeting held June 26, 2001, and approved by the Representative Town Meeting on August 8, 2001 and at a referendum held November 6, 2001 for Closure of Welles Road Bulky Waste Site; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance provided that the Town Council would determine the amount of such bonds to be issued; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of \$665,000 General Obligation Bonds, Issue of 2005, the receipt of grants in the aggregate amount of \$600,000, and a paydown in the amount of \$34,500, said authorization was reduced to \$415,500; and

WHEREAS, there will be no requirement for future borrowings on the project; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the total amount of such bonds remaining authorized but unissued shall be reduced to \$-0-.

Legislative History

11/27/2007	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	
2007-0282	Zeroing Bond Authorization for Transfer Station		Referral

RESOLUTION ZEROING OUT THE BOND AUTHORIZATION FOR FLANDERS ROAD TRANSFER STATION

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton, Connecticut, appropriated the sum of \$985,000 and authorized the issue of bonds in the same amount by ordinance adopted by the Town Council at a meeting held June 26, 2002, and approved by the Representative Town Meeting on August 8, 2001 and at a referendum held on November 6, 2001 for Flanders Road Transfer Station; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance provided that the Town Council would determine the amount of such bonds to be issued; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of \$865,000 General Obligation Bonds, Issue of 2005, and a paydown in the amount of \$44,750, said authorization was reduced to \$75,250; and

WHEREAS, there will be no requirement for future borrowings on the project; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the total amount of such bonds remaining authorized but unissued shall be reduced to \$-0-.

Legislative History

11/27/2007	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	
2007-0273	Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut Grant - Arts Cafe		Referral

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT FROM THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR

ARTS CAFÉ - MYSTIC

WHEREAS, the Arts Café - Mystic program, which is now in its fourteenth year, depends on grants for its operations each year, and

WHEREAS, the March program each year presents Student Poet Laureates from area high schools who are enabled to read their work before an audience, and

WHEREAS, a grant from the Community Foundation would help to fund such a performance as well as scholarships and writer's workshop opportunities for the student poets, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager may apply for a grant of \$4,000 from the Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut.

Legislative History

11/19/2007 Mayor Referred Town Council Committee of the W

11/27/2007 Town Council Committee of the Whole Recommended for a Resolution

2007-0275 Update of Housing Rehabilitation Guidelines Referral

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REVISIONS TO THE HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM GUIDELINES

WHEREAS, the Housing Rehabilitation Program guidelines administered by the Office of Planning and Development Services have not been updated since February 5, 1991, and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Economic and Community Development has new requirements for the inclusion of lead-based paint and relocation standards, and

WHEREAS, the program guidelines have been revised to offer 100% deferred loans to owner-occupied households, 3% 5-year monthly installment loans to investor-owners, and 5-year forgivable deferred loans to all qualified applicants for hazardous material mitigation, and

WHEREAS, the program guidelines have been revised to increase the maximum assistance to \$40,000 per structure, or \$60,000 per structure where lead-based paint or other hazardous material mitigation is required, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that revisions to the Housing Rehabilitation Program Guidelines as presented to the Town Council in a memorandum dated November 20, 2007, are hereby accepted and approved, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the revised Housing Rehabilitation Program Guidelines will take effect upon passage of this resolution by the Town Council.

Legislative History

11/19/2007 Mayor Referred Town Council Committee of the W

11/27/2007 Town Council Committee of the Whole Discussed

11/27/2007 Town Council Committee of the Whole Recommended for a Resolution

2007-0283 Resolution Regarding School Window Dispute Referral

RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL WINDOW DISPUTE

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council, pursuant to Section 5.1 of the Town Charter, hereby approves the proposed settlement of \$392,325 with JCJ Architecture regarding a dispute that resulted from the selection and/or purchase of windows for ongoing school construction projects ("window

dispute"). The settlement amount is to be provided through a combination of credits for project fees unrelated to those incurred as a result of the window dispute (\$273,008) and payment of costs incurred to Alumaticor for purchased materials related to the windows that could not be utilized (\$119,317). The Council authorizes the Town Manager to cause to be prepared and to execute the requisite legal documents to effectuate this settlement, subject to the approval of the Town Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

Legislative History

11/27/2007	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	
2007-0285	CGS 8-24 Referral to Planning Commission of Conveyance of Town Property		Referral

RESOLUTION REFERRING TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION A POTENTIAL CONVEYANCE OF TOWN PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Town Council is considering the conveyance of two parcels of property, which were acquired by the Town through tax foreclosure to the City of Groton /Groton Utilities, and

WHEREAS, the Town Attorney has advised the Town that the subject properties are "municipally owned property," and therefore any proposed conveyance must be reviewed by the Groton Planning Commission, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council refers to the Groton Planning Commission, pursuant to Section 8-24, Connecticut General Statutes, the proposed conveyance to City of Groton Utilities, of two parcels of Town-owned land on North Road, Buddington Road and Old Buddington Road, designated with PIN Numbers 169807790529E and 169910266848E.

Legislative History

11/27/2007	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution
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XI. OTHER BUSINESS

XII. ADJOURNMENT